

# ANTI-THEFT SYSTEM FOR COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

System and method for implementing a software based security system for preventing the unauthorized disconnection of electronic equipment from a network. A security system of the present invention includes at least one central processing unit, at least one piece of electronic equipment, a security station, and data transfer means for electronically interconnecting the at least one CPU, the at least one piece of electronic equipment, and the security station into a network. The CPU includes security software for detecting unauthorized disconnection of the electronic equipment from the network and sending an alarm signal to the security station. The software enabling a method embodiment for detecting the unauthorized disconnection of electronic equipment, including computers, from the network by determining whether the computers are logged on to the network, then polling each logged on computer. The logged on computers responding by sending an acknowledge signal which is sensed by the polling computer. In the event the acknowledge signal is not sensed, the polling computer sends an alarm signal to the security station.